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Her Majesties most Gracious

DECLARATION,

For the further Encouragement of Her SHIPS of WAR and PRIVATEERS.

ANNE R.

WHereas in and by Our Gracious Declaration, for the Encouragement of Our Ships of War and Privateers, bearing Date the First Day of June, *in the First Year of Our Reign, We did Publish and Declare, That for all the Goods belonging to Our Enemies of* France *and* Spain, *which should be Seized or Taken at Sea, or in any of Our Enemies Ports, Havens or Rivers, by any of Our Ships of War, or Merchant Ships Employed in Our Service, or by any Privateer Commissioned by Our Lord High Admiral of* England, *such Duties and Customs should be Paid for the same, as would be due and payable for such Goods if the same were Imported by way of Merchandize, other than the Rates and Duties Imposed on* French *Wine, Brandy, Vinegar, and other Goods of the Growth, Product or Manufacture of* France, *by an Act of the late King* William *the Third, made in the Seventh Year of His Reign, Entituled,* An Act for Granting to His Majesty an Additional Duty upon all *French* Goods and Merchandize. *And whereas it hath been Represented to Us, That the Duties payable by Virtue of Our said Declaration for Oyl made of Fish, or any Creature living in the Seas, of Foreign Fishing, and for Goods of the Growth or Produce of Foreign Plantations, not belonging to Us or Our Subjects, taken from Our Enemies as Prize, are so great, that the Captors thereof have not the Encouragement intended by Us for them by Our said Declaration; We therefore have thought fit, and by the Advice of Our Privy Council, for the further Encouragement of Our Ships of War and Privateers, do hereby Publish and Declare, That for all Oyl made of Fish, or any Creature living in the Seas, of Foreign Fishing, taken or to be taken, and Condemned as Lawful Prize, that shall be, after the Date hereof, Entred at any of Our Custom Houses, there shall not be paid any more or other Duties and Customs than would be payable for the same, if made of Fish or other Creature living in the Seas, caught in Ships or Vessels truly or properly belonging to* England or Wales, *or Town of Berwick upon Tweed, and Imported in such Ships; And that for all Goods of the Growth or Produce of Foreign Plantations, not belonging to Us or Our Subjects, taken or to be taken, and Condemned as Prize, that shall, after the Date hereof, be Entred at any of Our Custom Houses, there shall be paid such Duties and Customs only as are now payable for Goods of the same kind, of the Product of Our Plantations Imported by* English *Shipping: And hereof We Require Our Commissioners of the Customs, and Commissioners of Prizes, and all others, whom it may concern, to take Notice.*

Given at Our Court at *St. James's* the Seventeenth Day of *May*, In the Second Year of Our Reign, *Annoq; Domini*, 1703.

GOD Save the QUEEN.

Rome, April 28. *N. S.* The Pope has lately been very much indisposed, but is now pretty well recovered; However it is believed the ill State of his Health will occasion the putting off his intended Journey to *Loretto*. He has recalled Signior *Conti* from the Employment of Nuncio at the Court of *Portugal*, in order, as is believed, to make him a Cardinal at the next Promotion, which is expected very soon; and it is said Signior *Pignatelli*, who is returning from *Poland*, where he has resided some time as Nuncio, Signior *Colonna*, Steward of the Pope's Household, Signior *Palavicini*, Signior *Caffarelli*, and Signior *Casoni*, will be advanced at the same time to that Dignity. The Chevalier *de Vendosme*, Great Prior of *France*, passed lately by this City, in his way to *Naples*, from whence he will shortly return to the *French* Army commanded by the Duke of *Vendosme*, his Brother, in order to make the Campaign under him. We had last week the greatest Storm of Hail, Thunder, Wind and Rain, that has been known in these Parts in the Memory of Man, and it has done much Damage in the Country hereabouts. The Earthquake which happened in this Country on *Easter-day*, has made an end of destroying the few Houses which the former Earthquakes had left standing at *Norcia*, *Spoleto*, and some other Towns in the Ecclesiastical State. We have also been afflicted of late with a great Mortality of small Cattle, which having made Provisions extreamly dear, the Pope, to ease the Inhabitants of this City and the neighbouring Country, has obtained Leave of the Viceroy of *Naples* for them to be supplied therewith out of that Kingdom. The Government there continues to proceed with the utmost Severity against such Persons as are suspected of being in the Emperor's Interest, of whom there are great Numbers, especially in the Province of *Abruzzo*. They are adding several new Works to the Fortifications of the City of *Naples*, and have built a new Fort at *Baya*; and they are likewise fortifying several other Seaport Towns on the Coasts of that Kingdom.

Venice, May 4. Signior *Contarini* being lately promoted to the Dignity of Procurator of *St. Mark*, made his Publick Entry here the 2d Instant, with the usual Solemnity. The Imperial and the *French* Armies in *Lombardy* are preparing to take the Field as soon as the Season permits; and in the mean time the Forces of either side, which are posted along the *Secchia*, are cannonading each other, and raising Fortifications on both sides of that River, the *French* being resolved to attempt to pass it, which the Imperialists will endeavour to prevent. The *Spanish* Forces in the *Milaneze* are marching to their Rendezvous at *Cremona*, from whence they are to proceed towards *Bersello*, to join the Forces employed in the Blockade of that Place. That Garison has lately been reinforced by 3 Companies of Imperial Foot, who took their opportunity to get in by favour of the night: They frequently send out Parties against the Enemy with very good Success, and one of them, which was making an Excursion along the *Po*, discovering two Barks laden with Meal, which were going down from *Cremona* to *San Benedetto*, fired upon them, and having obliged those who were in them to come ashore, possessed themselves of the Barks, which

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